

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 34-66 are presently active in this case and are amended.

Claims 35-42, 44-53, 65, and 66 are amended to more clearly describe and distinctly claim Applicants' invention. Support for the amendments to Claims 35-42 and 44-53 is found in the specification at least on page 18, line 27 to page 19, line 5 and Figure 1. Support for changes to Claims 65 and 66 is found in the specification at least on page 16, line 27 to page 17, line 8. The remaining changes to the claims correct minor informalities. Thus, no new matter is added.

The outstanding Official Action rejected Claims 35, 41-42, 44, 46, 48-53, and 55-66 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph; Claims 34-66 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph; and Claims 34-66 were indicated as reciting allowable subject matter.

Applicant acknowledges with appreciation the indication of allowable subject matter.

Applicant respectfully requests that the rejections of Claims 58-60 and 62 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph be withdrawn because the outstanding Official Action does not state the reasons for rejecting these claims. Applicant has considered these claims and find them to be in condition for allowance.

Applicant traverses the rejection of Claim 63 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph with respect to the recitation of "a metal ball." Claim 63 as amended recites that the apparatus further comprises "a metal ball contacted to the end surface of the metal rod." While Claim 63 recites that "the projectile launch apparatus launches a plurality of projectiles disposed in a concentric circle from the double launch tube and precisely controls the launch timing with respect to the metal ball," Claim 63 does not recite that the metal ball launches a plurality of projectiles.

Accordingly, Applicant requests that the rejection of Claim 63 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph with respect to "a metal ball" be withdrawn.

The claims are amended to overcome the remaining rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph.

Applicant traverses the rejection of Claims 34-66 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph.

Figure 1 of Applicant's specification illustrates a launch apparatus 7 having inner launch tube 4 and outer launch tube 5.¹ Since the launch apparatus 7 has an inner launch tube and 4 separated from an outer launch 5, *two projectiles can be launched from the inner and outer launch tubes separately*. Additionally, Applicant's specification describes on at least page 21, lines 10-24, that when two projectiles are launched separately, the timings of the launchings can be simultaneous, or at a time difference Δt . Accordingly, Applicant submits that one of ordinary skill in the art would understand in light of Applicant's specification that two projectiles launched separately can be launched simultaneously or at a prescribed time interval. Furthermore, the simultaneous

Consequently, in view of the present response, no further issues are believed to be outstanding in the present application, and the present application is believed to be in condition for formal allowance.

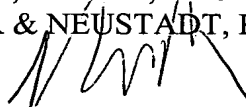
Customer Number

22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413 -2220
(OSMMN 03/06)

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Gregory J. Maier
Attorney of Record
Registration No. 25,599

Michael E. Monaco
Registration No. 52,041

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¹ See Applicant's specification, page 17, lines 1-7.